

Remarks

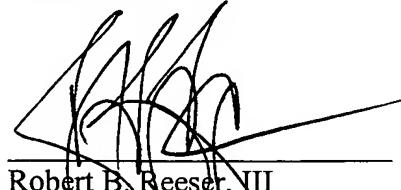
The Notification of the Non-Compliant Appeal Brief Office Action mailed June 13, 2006 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 6-7, 9-12, and 14-17 are now pending in this application. Claims 6-7, 9-12, and 14-16 stand rejected. Claim 17 stands objected to. Claims 1-5, 8, and 13 have been canceled.

Claims 14-17 were previous dependent claims that have been rewritten into independent form in accordance with 37 CFR 41.37(B).

Applicant requests entry of the foregoing amendment. Favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert B. Reeser, III
Registration No. 451548
ARMSTRONG TEASDALE LLP
One Metropolitan Square, Suite 2600
St. Louis, Missouri 63102-2740
(314) 621-5070